

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-23, 36 and 37 drawn to a molten metal mump and base, classified in class 266, subclass 239.

Group II: Claims 24-35 and 38, drawn to a molten metal transfer conduit, classified in class 222, subclass 594.

In response, Applicant elects for prosecution Group I claims 1-23, 36 and 37, without traverse, and request withdrawal, without prejudice or disclaimer, of the non-elected claims 24-35 and 38.

If there are any issues that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time that may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to **Deposit Account No. 19-3878**.

Respectfully submitted,

September 24, 2007
Date

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